

INSURANCE POLICY AND PROSPECT OF REVENGE

Police Think Murderer Has Been Jailed and His Motive Discovered.

A. L. DAVENPORT, AN EX-CONVICT

Letter to Lawyer Intercepted by Chief Reynolds Gave Clue Leading to Arrest of Negro Who is Believed to Have Killed One Man and Planned to Have Another Hanged.

A life insurance policy for \$1,000 and, incidentally, the prospect of revenge, are believed by the police to have been the motives for the murder of William Thomas, the negro who was found dead at Orcutt avenue and Twenty-eighth street Monday night. Two men are in jail charged with the crime, but the authorities are satisfied that the murderer is none other than A. L. Davenport, kinsman and friend to the dead man and the man who gave information throwing suspicion upon Sam Johnson, the first negro arrested.

The theory that jealousy prompted the murder, based upon the communications to the police department left upon the body by the murderer has been abandoned. It is now believed that Davenport left the letters on the dead man with the intention of casting suspicion upon Johnson.

Threw Suspicion Upon Johnson. Because Davenport's name was mentioned in the murderer's letter, Police Sergeant Mitchell went to see him early yesterday morning. The man was perfectly cool and apparently indignant over the killing of his friend. He told the sergeant that both he and Thomas had had trouble with one Sam Johnson over a woman. The sergeant went to Johnson's house, in Rockwell, found him in bed and arrested him.

Before Johnson had been lodged in the station the sergeant was convinced that he was working upon the wrong theory. The negro took this arrest so quietly and told such a straight story that it was impossible to believe that he was the man wanted.

The police were completely at sea until Chief Reynolds, in a most remarkable manner, found the clue

which led to the arrest of Davenport.

Intercepted a Note.

A negro boy entered the chief's office, asking for "Lawyer Newsome." He handed a note to the chief addressed to J. T. Newsome in a handwriting which resembled the writing of the murderer so closely that the chief's suspicions were aroused. Newsome was sent for and it developed that Davenport had been to see him early yesterday morning, desiring him to prosecute Sam Thomas, and the note intercepted by the chief was from Davenport.

Davenport Jailed.

Davenport, who had come over to attend the preliminary hearing of Johnson, was standing in front of the station. The chief called him and placed him under arrest. The prisoner became greatly excited and wanted to talk, but the chief declined to allow him to say anything. A .38-caliber Iver Johnson revolver was found in his pocket.

Later Chief Reynolds visited Davenport's house and there found a 12-bore repeating shot gun, with which the murder is supposed to have been committed.

\$1,000 Insurance Policy.

The jealousy feature having been removed, the police were at a loss to find a motive for the crime, but this problem was solved yesterday afternoon, when the chief visited the home of the dead man. There he found a life insurance policy for \$1,000, in which A. L. Davenport was named as beneficiary. The policy had been taken out in December and the premium paid on January 17. Later the chief learned that Davenport himself had paid the premium.

The chain of circumstantial evidence seems to be complete and the authorities are confident that Davenport will be sent to the gallows.

An Ex-Convict.

Chief Reynolds has learned that Davenport was sent to the penitentiary from Nottoway county for burglary in 1894. His term was eighteen years, but he was pardoned in 1900 by Governor Tyler.

Carrie Johnson, Sam Johnson's wife, is in jail with him, but it is probable that both will be released after the coroner's inquest today.

Living With White Woman.

A revolting feature of this remarkable case is the fact that Davenport was living at 2910 Oak avenue with a young white woman. The woman, who is only 24 years old, was taken to jail with her young baby yesterday afternoon. At first she declared that she had negro blood in her veins, but later admitted that she was a white woman, and said that she came from near Williamsburg. One of her several names is Mittie Sanford.

DIRECTORS OF THE Y.M.C.A. REELECTED BY MEMBERS

Business Meeting of Board Adjourned Until Friday Night, When Officers Will Be Chosen.

A regular meeting of the members of the Young Men's Christian Association was held last night in the hall of the association. The most important matter before the meeting was the election of five directors to serve during the ensuing three years, the terms of a like number having expired.

The members were unanimously in their behalf that the old directors, having served faithfully, should be re-elected. Messrs. W. E. Cottrell, W. E. Barrett, L. C. Phillips, B. W. Crump and C. D. West will, therefore, continue as directors for another term.

The directors of the association held a business meeting immediately after the adjournment of the member's meeting. Matters of minor importance were considered, after which the board adjourned until Friday night when the various officers of the association will be elected.

MAY TAKE THE ACADEMY.

Committee Looking for Temporary House for Baptist Church.

The committee appointed by the congregation of the Newport News Baptist church to secure temporary quarters in which to hold services pending the erection of a new building has not as yet determined upon what quarters to recommend. It is probable that the Academy of Music will be selected as the place for holding Sunday morning and evening services and that the Casino will be secured for the use of the Sunday school.

The use of the academy has been offered the congregation at cost of heating, lighting and janitor service. Definite plans for the future will be made at the mass meeting tomorrow night which will be held in the lecture room of the Presbyterian church.

In Honor of Bride and Groom.

Rev. and Mrs. T. H. Schwartz delightfully entertained at supper Sunday evening in honor of the newly married couple. Mr. and Mrs. Kalman Stein, at their home on Twenty-eighth street.

The guests included Mr. and Mrs. Stein, Mrs. Y. Stein and Miss Sadie Stein, of Russia; Mrs. Kahn, of Taurigen, Russia; Mr. M. Kahn, of Harrisburg, South Africa; Mrs. J. Stein, of Fayetteville, N. C.; Mrs. J. Beskin, Miss Yetta Fish, Miss Lena Schalom, Miss Rose Schwartz and Mr. I. Cohen, of this city.

MAKES SERIOUS CHARGE

Chief Walker, of Bloodfield, up in Arms Against Justice Miner.

TROUBLE OVER CASE OF J. J. THOMAS

Justice Accused of Dismissing Cases in Absence of Commonwealth's Attorney and Without Hearing Witnesses for the Prosecution.

Chief of Police Walker, of Bloodfield, and a squad of officers made a raid Sunday night on a place alleged to have been run by J. J. Thomas, on Ivy avenue, and several parties were captured, it is alleged, while engaged in the seductive and festive game of poker. The parties charged with running the games and with "setting in" were called before Justice Miner yesterday.

Commonwealth's Attorney Wilcox appeared for the prosecution and asked the court to continue the cases until Thursday at 3 p. m. and his request was granted.

Chief Walker stated to the Daily Press last night that a few minutes after the continuance was allowed and he commonwealth's attorney had left the court room, the cases were called for hearing. Chief Walker states that he refused to produce the county's witnesses, in the absence of the attorney and, upon his refusal the court dismissed the cases.

Chief Walker, however, still has thirteen warrants sworn out against the parties charged with gambling, and says that he has not yet finished with the matter.

TWO IMPORTANT CASES.

From This City on Supreme Court Docket for Hearing.

Two important cases from this city will probably come up in the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia at its term this week for argument. In one case the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company vs. Andrew J. Jones the company appeals from a decision of the commission all owing Jones \$1,000 damages. This is the celebrated case in which the plaintiff alleged damage by the shipbuilding company to his oyster beds when a part of the land was reclaimed for the erection of shipways.

The second case of local importance is that of the suit of the widow of Charles W. Plunkett against the Hepatosophs for \$2,000 insurance money. The order contested payment on the ground that the policy contained a suicide clause, Plunkett having committed suicide several years ago.

Paul Desser Dies.

NEW YORK, Jan. 30.—Paul Desser, a song writer whose "Banks of the Wabash" and "The Blue and the Gray" brought his name into public notice died today.

"Ah-h-h-h!"

Here's something good! That is the greeting which

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gets when time for dessert has arrived. Nothing like it—nothing so good. It can be prepared in two minutes.

Jell-O comes in 6 fruit flavors: Lemon, Raspberry, Strawberry, Orange, Chocolate and Cherry.

10c. per package. Enough for 6 people. All grocers sell Jell-O.

Beautifully illustrated recipe book, free. Address: The Genesee Pure Food Co., Le Roy, N. Y. Approved by Pure Food Commissioners.

Convincing.

There is nothing that will convince you quicker than figures that we are selling Shoes cheaper during our Mid-Winter Clearance Sale than they have ever before been offered you. Neither are we quoting you prices on odds and ends, as every pair of Shoes in our store has been bought within the past four months. You know the Shoes—note the prices:

Edwin Clapp \$4.00 Shoes, the finest shoe that ever left the factory for the money, at \$4.90

The celebrated Crawford Shoes, in velvet kid and box calf, blucher and lace; regular \$3.50 Shoes, at \$2.50

Women's \$3.50 Patrician Shoes, the best \$3.50 Shoe in the city, at \$2.75

Women's \$2.00 Shoes, dull leather; blucher, new three-quarter top, at \$2.35

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and diphtheria are twin evils. From a small beginning they stealthily invade the system, and result in death or serious illness. Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup has for years been recognized as the sure cure of sore throat and a preventive of diphtheria. Doctors prescribe it. Mothers swear by it.

"My little boy, 6 years old, had a hard, dry cough from a cold and I decided to try

DR. BULL'S COUGH SYRUP

He was soon relieved after a few doses only and entirely cured of the cough and throat trouble. Hereafter I will always keep it in the house." Mrs. Blair Wallace, Duncansville, Pa.

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New Spring Shirt Waists

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The choicest line of Waists ever shown in this city, made of the finest and sheerest of Laces, India Linen, French Batiste and China Silks, most elaborately trimmed with fine Val, Lace and Medallions. These Waists are made both with long and elbow sleeves, open front or back; some charming styles in all-over and Net Waists. Come in and look them over.

Finest of French Batiste Waists, made in the newest button back style, with elbow sleeves; fronts are a solid mass of fine Val, Lace and Medallions; the sleeves are finished with deep ruffles of wide Val, Lace; each waist has a dainty collar of the latest pattern; the greatest value ever offered at the price \$4.98

Fine White Batiste Waists—made and trimmed similar to the above at each, \$2.98 and \$2.48

Fine White Lawn Waists; button back, elbow sleeves; fronts of Val, Lace and Medallions \$1.98

Dainty Embroidered White Lawn Waists, at \$1.48 and down to, each 50c

SPECIAL—New White Lawn Waists; button back, elbow sleeves; front trimmed with Val, Lace in diamond shaped designs, with medallion in center of each square, \$1.50 value for 98c

== 10c ==

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In All Parts of the City.

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I suffered with chronic indigestion for ten years until I began to use Buckingham Lithia Water. After three months I was greatly benefited. B. W. ANCELL, C. & O. agent, Brems, Virginia.

Buckingham Lithia Water

As a drinking water unequalled — As a medicinal agent unsurpassed. Five gallons for 75 cents at

KELLUM MEDICINE CO.,

Bell 'phone, 323, 3100 Huntington avenue. Citizen 'phone, 432.



This Whiskey is absolutely pure. I respectfully call the attention of physicians who wish to prescribe this excellent article.

I am sole agent for same. Prices: Quart, \$1.00. Pint, 50c. 1/2 Pint, 25c.

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